



\$2.95 #6

NoodwickTM

A kind of Tragic



Nodwick

A KIND OF TRAGIC

FROM THE BEGINNING
OF TIME WE CAME...
BEFORE THERE WAS SUCH
A THING AS SOAP...
MOVING SILENTLY DOWN
THROUGH THE CENTURIES...

...NEVER GETTING A
REAL JOB, OH NO...

... WE LIVED MANY
SECRET LIVES, MOSTLY
BECAUSE WE WERE
ASHAMED THAT WE
NEVER EARNED A
DEGREE...

...STRUGGLING TO REACH THE
TIME OF THE CONGLOMERATION
WHEN THE FEW WHO REMAIN
WILL CHOP EACH OTHER TO
BITS... YOU'D THINK WE WOULD'VE
DEVELOPED SOME SOCIAL SKILLS
OVER THE EONS, BUT APPARENTLY,
WE'RE A LITTLE SLOW...

NO ONE HAS
EVEN CARED
WE WERE
AMONG YOU...

UNTIL
NOW.



IT WASN'T THAT BAD, YEAGAR.

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY! YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KISS HER!

HIM IT, ACTUALLY. I DON'T THINK IT HAD A GENDER.

THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT ITS CURSE WAS LIFTED, AND A WRONGLY IMPRISONED BEING WAS FREED!



KNOCK IT OFF! I'M GONNA RIP A NEW ONE FOR THE NEXT IDIOT THAT STICKS ME IN A PROPHECY!

WANTED
BATTLE
PROPHECY



BUT YOU WERE REWARDED, WEREN'T YOU?

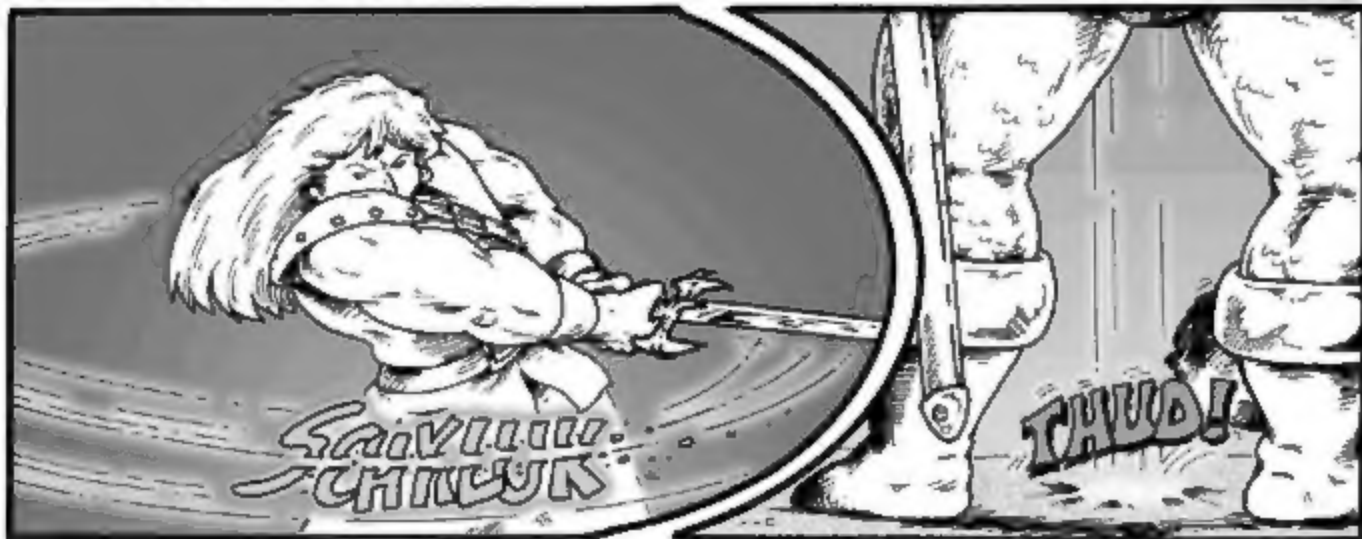
OH, YEAH. I WAS GIVEN "ENLIGHTENMENT." HOW CAN I SPEND THAT?!

I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT; I DON'T THINK IT STUCK, IF IT HAD, YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE SWIPPED ALL THIS STUFF FROM THE EUMORICHIAN TEMPLE.

REMEMBER: IF PIFFANY ASKS WHERE WE GOT IT, TELL HER WE HIT A RUMMAGE SALE BEFORE SHE WOKE UP THIS MORNING!



THERE WILL BE ONLY ME!!



OH, ARE YOU STILL HERE?

ER, YEAH... YOU ARE AWARE THAT THERE'S A SWORD RUNNING THROUGH YOUR MIDRIF, RIGHT? I MEAN, AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO FALL DOWN AND DIE NOW?

NAH, I GAVE THAT UP A LONG TIME AGO. I HARDLY NOTICE THESE THINGS ANY MORE.

I GUESS WE'LL CALL IT EVEN SINCE I DID A DIS-SERVICE TO YOUR HIRELING.

NOW, I HOPE YOU DON'T TAKE THIS PERSONALLY...

...BUT I CAN'T HAVE YOU FOLLOWING ME AROUND.

BEFORE YOU GO SPLAT, TUCK YOUR KNEES UP AND TRY TO ROLL WITH IT; YOU'LL MAKE LESS OF A MESS.



WHEW! THANKS!
HOW DID YOU KNOW
THAT I WAS GOING
TO FALL?



SIMPLE: YOU WERE
ON A ROOF.
NOW, WHAT ABOUT
OUR HACK-HAPPY
FRIEND?



OH, HIM. HE WAS A
REAL WEIRDO. HE DIDN'T SEEM
TO HAVE THE ALLERGY TO
SHARPENED METAL THAT I
NORMALLY EXPLOIT IN MY
OPPONENTS.

YOU TRIED
TO KILL
HIM?



AFTER HE GAVE ME
NO OTHER CHOICE, I RESORTED
TO LETHAL FORCE... THAT JUST
WASN'T LETHAL ENOUGH, I
GUESS...

THEN HE
PUSHED ME
OFF OF THE
ROOF!

HMM...
THAT SOUNDS A
LITTLE FAR-
FETCHED.

I AGREE. I'LL
BET HE SLIPPED OFF
OF THE ROOF!



SO WHY DID THAT
GUY DECIDE THAT I WOULD
LOOK BETTER HATLESS?

THAT WASN'T TOO CLEAR.
HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT
SLAYING AN IMMORTAL.



WELL, JUST SO LONG AS
THAT NAUGHTY PERSON IS
GONE, AND NODWICK IS--

THERE
WILL BE
ONLY
ME!!

CHOP

ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL



HMM... COPYCAT CRIMINALS ARE STARTING EARLY THIS YEAR.

C'MON! IF WE DON'T GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS, WE'LL NEVER GET NODWICK TO CARRY ANYTHING AGAIN!

OOP!

SHE'S GOING TO GET AWAY!

NOT IF WE USE THE "BULLWHALE MANEUVER" ALLEY...

HI! WHAT SAY WE HAVE A LITTLE CHAT ABOUT THE POPULARITY OF MENCHICIDE, HMM?

COOL! I'M A LOUSY LISTENER, ANYWAY!

LET'S BOOGIE!







I'M GUESSING
THAT WE JUST WITNESSED
THE QUAKENING.

JUST HOW MANY
OF THESE YAHOOOS
ARE THERE?!

I SUDDENLY FEEL
THE NEED TO OWN A STEEL
COLLAR FESTOONED WITH SHARP
SPIKES. IS THE RED LIGHT
DISTRICT STILL OPEN?



WHA...WHAT
HAPPENED?

YOU WERE DE-
MOGGNER I FELT KIND
OF RESPONSIBLE SINCE
MY TRUTH SPELL KEPT
YOU FROM DEFENDING
YOURSELF. YOU'RE ALIVE.
BUT I DON'T THINK
YOU'RE IMMORTAL
ANYMORE.



I'M M...MORTAL?
UH...THANK YOU FOR
RESURRECTING ME. UH,
I'VE GOT TO GO AND,
ER...EXPLORE MY NEARLY-
FOUND MORTALITY.

M'KAY!
HAVE FUN!



WRINKLE
CREAM! I NEED WRINKLE
CREAM! AND A RETIREMENT
FUND! AAAAAAGGGH!!!



SO NOW
WHAT DO
WE DO?

I'VE HEARD TALES OF
IMMORTALS, BUT I THOUGHT
THEY WERE MERELY STORIES...
LET'S CONSULT THE GREAT LIBRARY
HERE IN MARNHARTA. THEY MAY
HAVE SOME RELEVANT TEXTS.

THERE WILL
BE ONLY ME!





YOU REALIZE THAT
THIS IS HOPELESS.

I HAVE A PLAN, BUT
I NEEDED TO GET US
AWAY FROM PIFFANY
FOR A MINUTE.

HUH?
WHY?

BECAUSE I DISCOVERED
SOMETHING ELSE: WE CAN
BECOME IMMORTALS, TOO!

REALLY? ETERNAL
YOUTH AND PRACTI-
CAL INVULNERAB-
ILITY HAVE APPEAL.

ALL WE NEED TO
DO IS WEAR THESE MAGIC
HEADBANDS. I FOUND THE
SPELL TO CREATE THEM IN
THE LIBRARY.

HOW DID YOU MAKE
THEM WITHOUT BEING
NOTICED?

I MADE THEM IN
THE FANTASY SECTION.
NOBODY GOES THERE.

ANYWAY, IF WE WEAR
THESE THINGS NEAR AN IMMORTAL
WHO GETS BEHEADED, THE GLORIFICATION
WILL BE CHANNELLED INTO US!
INSTANT IMMORTALITY!

AND HOW DO WE
EXPLAIN OUR NEW-FOUND TASTE IN
UNFASHIONABLE HEADGEAR?

WE'LL SAY WE'RE
TRYING SOME KIND OF NEW-
AGE HEALTH REGIMEN...
WE'RE FOCUSING OUR CHAKRAS
OR WHATEVER.

THAT
WORKS FOR
ME! UM, WHERE
ARE WE GOING,
ANYWAY?

TO THE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE.

MEANWHILE...

NOW, I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE JUST DOING WHAT COMES NATURALLY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW...



...YOU SEE, MY FRIEND HERE HAS PASSED BEYOND THE VEIL MANY TIMES, AND IT SEEMS THAT THIS HAS HAD AN UNFORESEEN SIDE EFFECT...



...HE REALLY ISN'T AN IMMORTAL. HE JUST LOOKS LIKE ONE...



...AND BESIDES, YOU SHOULD WORK ON YOUR BACKSWING. DO YOU HAVE A TOUCH OF BURSITIS?



...SO HE KEEPS GETTING MISTAKEN FOR ONE OF YOU GUYS, WHEN HE'S A NORMAL, ORDINARY MORTAL PERSON...



...ALTHOUGH I SUPPOSE HE'S A LITTLE UNUSUAL, SEEING THAT HE GETS HURT A LOT...



...HE MAY BE SOMEWHAT ACCIDENT-PRONE, BUT--UH, BE A DEAR AND PICK THAT UP FOR ME, WILL YOU? THANKS!



...SO IF YOU'LL JUST HELP SPREAD THE WORD WE CAN AVOID ANY FURTHER-- THERE WILL BE ONLY ME!



DAYS LATER...







♪ HERE WE ARE, BORN TO BE KINGS,
WE'RE THE PRINCES OF THE UNIVERSE! ♪

EXPLAIN YOURSELF,
YOUNG MAN!

I JUST WANTED TO
LIVE FOREVER. WAS
THAT SO WRONG?

WHY COULDN'T YOU
HAVE OPTED FOR LONGBORN
LIKE OTHER WIZARDS YOUR
AGE, ARTAX?

SO YENGEAR IS
IMMORTAL NOW?
WELL THAT'S JUST
PEACHY!

WE SHOULD STOP HIM
WHATEVER THIS JACKPOT IS,
I DON'T THINK WE WANT
HIM TO HAVE IT!

I ONLY FELT IT FOR A
MOMENT, BUT I THINK I KNOW
WHERE THE FINAL BATTLE WILL
BE... FOLLOW ME!

LATER, THE STAGE IS SET FOR THE CLIMACTIC SHOWDOWN

THOUSANDS OF
YEARS HAVE GONE BY,
AND WE ARE THE LAST,
EH?

ONLY ONE
OF US CAN CLAIM
THE JACKPOT!

AS THE NEW BLOOD
HERE, I CAN TELL YA THAT
YOU FOSSILS MIGHT AS WELL
LOP YER NOGGINS OFF
RIGHT NOW!

THEN LET IT
BE DECIDED!

THERE WILL BE
ONLY ME!

LET'S GET READY TO
RRRRRRRRRRRRRR!!

NOW?

NOT YET.
A FEW OF
THEM NEED TO
BE SHORTER.

I SURE
HOPE THIS
WORKS...

HOLD, DUNGUIN!
LET US VANGUISH THIS
USURPER WHO HAS STOLEN HIS
IMMORTALITY FROM ONE
OF OUR BRETHREN!

HEY, IT DOESN'T MATTER
WHERE YOU GOT IT, IT'S WHAT
YOU DO WITH IT!

AGREED! AFTER HE
IS DEFEATED, WE SHALL
MAKE SURE THAT THE JACKPOT
GOES TO CLAN McCLOD!

CLANG CLANG

NOW WHY DIDN'T ANY
OF US THINK OF WEARING
THINGS LIKE THAT?

WE WILL HAVE TO
STRIKE WITH CUNNING
TO TAKE HIS HEAD!

LET'S
DO IT!



UM,
HOW?

WE'LL DEFEAT HIM THE
SAME WAY WE TOOK DOWN
CARLIQUA THE RED IN
THE COURT OF NEBUKALOG
III IT WAS OVER FOUR
CENTURIES AGO...

WE WERE POSING AS FOREIGN NOBLEMEN, AND THE KING WAS HOLD-
ING A FEAST IN OUR HONOR. YOU COULDN'T STOP EATING THOSE CANDIED
YAK LIPS. ANYWAY, NEBUKALOG CALLED FOR SOME ENTERTAINMENT.



UNBEKNOWNST TO US, ONE OF THE DANCERS
WAS THE WICKED IMMORTAL, CARLIQUA THE RED!
SHE HAD EQUIPPED HERSELF WITH A BRASS NECK GUNRD. HER PLAN WAS
TO TAKE OUR HEADS WHILE WE WERE FULL OF NEBUKALOG'S BEST WINE, BUT-

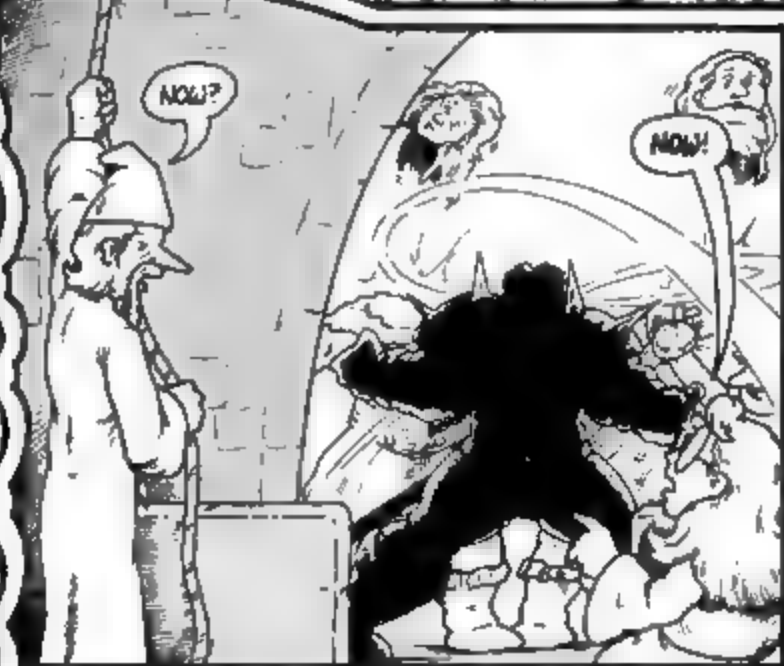


EXCUSE ME, BUT WHILE
YOU TWO WERE BUSY WITH
THIS CHARMING FLASHBACK,
THE LUMMOX YOU WERE
FIGHTING DE-MELOINED
YOU BOTH.



OH, POOP-ON-
A-STICK!

CAN I GET THOSE
CANDIED YAK LIPS
TO GO?



NOW?

NOW!



THE JACKPOT
IS MINE! HA-
HAHAHA!!!

I CAN SENSE
AND SHAPE EVERY-
ONE'S FATE! I CAN MOLD
CIVILIZATION TO MY
VISION! I'M GONNA
RE-MAKE THE WORLD
INTO THE BIGGEST MEG
PARTY EVER!



OH-HO! SO YOU
WANTED TO TAKE THE
JACKPOT FROM ME, HUH?
I ALWAYS KNEW YOU HAD IT
IN FOR ME, YOU OVERBLOWN
LUGGAGE HANDLER!

WOULD YOU
BELIEVE I WAS
TRYING TO GET A
BETTER VIEW OF
THE FIGHT?



NOPE. I ALSO DON'T
BELIEVE YOU WERE PERFECTING
A SPIDER COSTUME FOR NEXT
HALLOWEEN OR TAKING UP
BUNGEE JUMPING!

LET'S SEE WHAT
THIS LITTLE GEM DOES,
SHALL WE?

SURE. WHY
NOT? I MIGHT
AS WELL WEAR
YET ANOTHER
DUCT TAPE
NECKTIE...









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